the 8th plan period research in the application of Recombinant DNA technology will increase. So far as the Department of Biotechnology is concerned, at present four specialised and exclusive genetic engineering units at Madurai Kamraj University—Madurai, Jawaharlal Nehru University —New Delhi, Banaras Hindu University—Varanasi and Indian Institute of Science—Bangalore have been commissioned and are functioning. Presently there is no proposal to set up any other new centre exclusively devoted to the work relating to recombinant DNA Technology in the 8th Plan period.

Multi-use hospital computers

*105. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sophisticated multi-use hospital computers, capable of handling multiple hospital operations are proposed to be introduced in various Government Hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, what progress has been made so far and what proposals are under implementation for introduction of such multi-use hospital computers; and

(c) what provision has been made for computerisation of hospital facilities during the last three years and in the current year, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Provisions of all equipments including computers in various Government Hospitals is the responsibility of respective State Government/U.T. administration. As far as the Central Government is concerned, there is no proposal under consideration for equipping various Government hospitals in the country with multi-use hospital computers. However, a decision for computerisation in All India Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital has been taken. The main-frame computer system Medha 180/930-31 A has been procured. Terminals and printers are being installed and software for patient care management system is under development.

Irradiation of sewage

*107. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any experimental plans to irradiate sewage in other cities besides Baroda; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government have consulted West Germany/Sweden/New Zealand, etc. who are opposed to irradiation on sound Scientific reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The sewage irradiation plant at Baroda is a demonstration plant. The plant is in the process of being commissioned. The question of setting up such plants in other cities will be considered after studying the results obtained therefrom.

(b) West Germany has a sewage treatment plant in operation and we have been exchanging information with them. We have also information about similar plants being operated in USA and Japan. Certain citizens groups in different countries are opposed to nuclear techniques not always on Scientific grounds.

Sale of Sura in Delhi

*108. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sura, an Ayurvedic preparation with 30 per cent alcoholic content, is being sold in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to check its sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Administration has taken necessary action to curb the misuse of spirituous preparations by amending the Delhi Intoxicating Spirituous preparations Import, Export, Transport, Possession and Sale Rules, 1952. Under these rules effective from 17.3.87, it is necessary for every person desiring to sell the Mritsanjivani Sura and other Ayurvedic preparations containing more than 20 Degree proof alcohol (11.4% v/v) to sell such preparations on the prescription of a registered medical practitioner and to keep the account of sale and purcuase. Some of the manufacturers have moved the Delhi High Court against these rules and obtained a stay order from the Court. Delhi Administration is pursuing the case for the vacation of stay order granted by the court.

Operation Theatre deaths in Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Hospital, New Delhi

*109. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Operation Theatre deaths took place recently in Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Hospital, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof, monthwise, during the period since January, 1989; and

(c) whether the rise in Operation Theatre deaths was due to administration of spurious or unscheduled drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) One death occurred while the patient was being operated for hernia on 8.3.1989.

(c) No, Sir.

Autonomous organisation for defence exports

*110. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the proposal to set up an autonomous organisation for defence exports; if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, by when a decision would be taken in this regard;

(c) whether any decision to enter into joint ventures for defence exports to third countries has been taken; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any detailed export plan is being formulated for the public sector units and the ordnance factories; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Government have not yet decided on the constitution of the autonomous organisaion for defence exports.

(b) It is not possible to indicate any time for this as various aspects have to be considered.

(c) Decision to enter into joint ventures for defence exports to third countries will be taken on the merits of each case. No joint venture project has been entered into till now.

(d) Government have not formulated any export plan for the export of defence stores for either ordnance factories or Defence Public Sector Undertakings. But they have been internally fixing targets and undertaking exports.